

Project Fact Sheet

California Wind Energy Consortium

GOALS

- Provide a focal center to link the diverse set of players involved in wind energy in California;
- Enhance the California Energy Commission's wind energy efforts to further wind energy development in the state;
- Create a self-sustaining, industry-motivated organization with a broad membership base;
- Administer a program of wind energy research, training and technology development, and deployment specific to California's needs;
- Support the Commission goals for development of safe, reliable, environmentally sound, and affordable wind electric generation capacity within the state of California.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



The California Wind Energy Consortium is the first of its kind in the state and the nation. Administered by the University of California, Davis, it serves as an unbiased focal center bringing together wind energy developers, electricity suppliers, State and National government representatives, environmental groups, and the academic community, in an on-going collaboration to support continued wind energy development specific to California. Pilot year activities (2002) are funded through the PIER Program.

The objectives of the Consortium include:

- Organize and manage a diverse consortium advisory board to provide immediate expertise in areas pertaining to wind energy technology including design, operation/maintenance, generation and modeling;
- Establish a physical focal point for wind energy related questions/activities in the state;
- Support and enhance the existing California Wind Performance Reporting System (WPRS) with web-accessible production data and annual trend analysis reports summarizing production, capacity and turbine technology;
- Develop plans and guidelines for a statewide wind-engineering technician training program to ensure California maintains a competent and current wind energy support base;
- Develop a series of targeted papers to evaluate wind resources and electric power generation capabilities in the state. The focus is on scenarios for improving

affordability and reliability with better resource management, understanding of peaking demands, transmission and delivery needs and combining hybrid distributed generation with energy storage options;

- Develop plans and guidelines for a statewide wind anemometer loan program to assist with new wind resource siting needs and to support field verification of Geographic Information System models.



BENEFITS TO CALIFORNIA

This collaborative wind energy effort does not currently exist anywhere in the nation. Critical issues being address are industry driven. Given the notable amount of installed wind-based power and the potential for significant quantities of additional wind-based electric power in the state, the Consortium can play a critical role in enhancing, educating and helping to shape the way wind energy will help meet electricity needs.

FUNDING AMOUNT

Commission	\$350,000
Match	\$0

PROJECT STATUS

Ongoing and currently under evaluation for 2nd year funding. Culmination of Consortium efforts and other issues to be presented at the Consortium statewide forum planned for December 17-18, 2002.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Dora Yen
California Energy Commission
PIER Wind Energy Technical Lead
1516 Ninth Street, MS-43
Sacramento, CA 95814-5504
(916) 653-4128
dyen@energy.state.ca.us

Cornelis van Dam, Professor
Department of Mechanical and
Aeronautical Engineering
University of California-Davis
One Shields Avenue
Davis, CA 95616
cpvandam@ucdavis.edu